

NATIONAL SEMINAR
(Multidisciplinary)

ON

BALUCH: HISTORY, CULTURE AND THEIR ASPIRATIONS
25-26 March, 2017

Department of History

Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation University, Lucknow

Sponsored by Indian Council of Historical Research, Indian Council of Social Sciences Research & UGC

The seminar invites research papers along the following sub-themes. Papers on an aspect not listed below but broadly related to the central theme can also be presented. Abstract of paper, in 250 words, must be submitted on or before March 15, 2017 as mentioned in the brochure.

Theme-I Baluch People: Historical Perspective

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| (i) Origin, Homeland and History | (ii) Baluch Demography: Issues and Concerns |
| (iii) Baluch History: From Ethnological Perspectives | (iv) Conflicts, Violence and Cultural Hegemony:
Narratives in Baluch History |

Theme- II Baluch Region: Archaeological Perspective

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| (i) Pre-History & Historical Archeology of
Baluchistan Region | (ii) Evidences of Cultural Contacts from Archaeological
Findings |
| (iii) Archaeological Linkages: Evidence from
Baluchistan and other Indus Region | (iv) Archaeological Findings from Indian & other
Central Asian Region |

Theme- III Baluch Society: Cultural and Religious Perspective

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| (i) Baluch Literature, Languages, Writings and Arts | (ii) Baluch Narratives: From Baluch Poetry |
| (iii) Baluch Society: Cultural Continuity, Exchange
and Distinctness | (iv) Linguistic Conflicts in Baluch Region: Issues and
Concerns |
| (v) Baluch Aspirations in Religious and other Social
Movements | (vi) Ethnic Conflict and Cultural Linkage |
| (vii) Baluch Folk Traditions | |

Theme-IV Baluch Aspirations: Socio-political Movements towards Nation-State

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| (i) Baluch Social Movements towards Nation-state | (ii) Baluch Nationalism: A Socio-political Uprising |
| (iii) Baluch Nationalism and its Geo-Political
Ramification | (iii) Rising of Baluch Nationalism and re-positioning in
Regional Foreign Policy |
| (iv) Media and Aspirations of Baluch People | |

Theme-V Law, Legal System, Human Rights and Baluch Nationalism

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| (i) Baluch Legal System: Locating Baluch
Aspirations in Law, Custom and Traditions | (ii) Baluch Nationalism and responses from
Imperial Legal System |
| (iii) Law, Custom and Rights of Indigenous People:
An Example from Baluchistan | (iv) Baluch Nationalism: Responses from
International Legal Order |
| (v) Law and Protection of Natural Resources: A Baluch
Narration | |

Theme - VI Baluchistan: From Socio-Economic Perspectives

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|--|--|
| (i) Baluch Economy: From Pastoralism to Nationalism | (ii) Baluch Movement: A feminist Concerns |
| (iii) Baluch Population: A perspective from Human
Development Index | (iv) Ethno-Nationalism and its impact on
Baluch Economy |

Theme- VII Baluch Community in India: Reminiscence from Past and its Interlinking

- | | |
|--|---|
| (i) Geographical Location of Baluch in India | (ii) Baluch in India: Inheritance of Culture,
Assimilation and Progression |
| (iii) Indian National Freedom Movement
& Contribution of Baluch | |

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Concept Note

The Baluch are an ethnically and historically distinct people, with an unique ethno-linguistic identity, inhabiting 375,000 square mile region, roughly the rise of Egypt along the Persian gulf, and are found in the modern states of eastern Iran, Afghanistan and South-west Pakistan. Etymologically, Baluch is derived from Sanskrit word *Bal*, meaning strength, and *och* i.e. high or magnificent.

Baluch were earlier a nomadic group of tribes known at the time as Balashehik to migrate *en mass* and abandoned their original home land of Central Asia. After many centuries of wandering and sufferings, they settled in South and Eastern Iranian plateau, and created a country or nation state known as Baluchistan that lasted for nearly three hundred years in an independent or other semi-independent status, until annexed by Pakistan in 1948.

The earliest mention of part of Baluchistan is in *Avesta*. We have an account of Baluchistan in the *Shahnama* and in the *Ain-i-Akbari*. Within its history of two thousand years, many of the great emperors of Central Asia and India have passed across Baluchistan borders leaving permanent marks of their presence. Macedonian, Arab, Ghaznivids, Mangol, Moughal, and Durrani are among them who traversed the country.

The Indian mainland share close cultural and religious ties with Baluch land, which is marked by presence of Hindu Temples, and Buddhism. This cultural attachment is substantiated by the fact that out of four popular languages spoken there, one of that is *Brahmi*, which an ancient Dravidian language.

Socio-cultural and political history of Baluchistan is flourished through formation of confederation of forty four Baluch tribes under the leadership of Mir Jalal Khan in the twelfth century. This was further carried by the confederation of *Rind Laskhari* in the fifteenth century, and the establishment of the *Khanate of Baluchistan* in the seventeen century. These confederations resulted into deep-rooted ethnic as well national identity.

Throughout history Baluch have been the victims of conflicts and marginalisation. The present conflict requires an in-depth understanding of the socio-political and economic oppression, originating from the past. Be the era of British colonial rule or so-called modern democratic model, history of Baluch is nothing but unfolding of colonial subjugation, forcible annexation, ethnic cleansing, siphoning of natural resources for well suited imperial economic objectives, and the

inability of present dispensation to deliver genuine development. The intractable nature of these historical factors has made a conclusive resolution of this conflict, nearly impossible, paving way to present uprising of Baloch Nationalism.

Nationalism is the feeling of protection of interest of a nation. Ethnic nationalism, which something more than nationalism, refers to the nation in terms of ethnicity that always includes culture, language and tradition decent from previous generations. Here, the culture, linguistic symbols etc. are used for internal cohesion and for differentiation from other groups. However, the protection and promotion of language and culture of Baloch were not addressed owing to the colonial mindset. In fact, pre-partition strategy, of the Muslim league led by Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the champion of federal system and provincial autonomy, was thrown away by imperial Pakistan, and Unity and rights of Islam took centre-stage. Political parties, army and bureaucracy took it as a tool to reinforce their ideology, resulting into continuous denial of Baloch rights. Indeed, the Baloch undergo serious human right violations, ignored at international level due to inherent military interest of United States or China. Thousand of Baloch had been killed and face forced displacement.

The fact that the Baloch are facing serious human rights violations, horrendous violence against women, humiliating their socio-cultural and ethnic rights, and that too by state, directly or indirectly, it is nothing but *erga-omens*. The seminar is an attempt to explore Baloch nationalism through their history, culture and their aspirations. It intends to examine pre-history of the region, and their socio-cultural ties evidencing from the archaeology of Central Asian region as well as Baloch region. This is also required to revisit their contributions to the art, literature, language and traditions to understand the problem in a holistic manner. Addressing Baloch aspirations would require exploring their Human Right violations, from the perspective of present International Legal Order, and a re-examining of the very existence of imperial policy. Baloch, being located geographically not only in North-western Pakistan, but also Iran, Afghanistan, and some part of India, and that too with shared socio-cultural relations; it becomes an onerous obligation to re-examining the above right violations.

Note: Abstract should be submitted before March 15, 2017 to the **email:** **balochhistory2017@gmail.com.**

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Registration Form

Name (in Block letters).....

Designation.....

Name of the Institution.....

Gender: Male/Female/Transgender.....

Address for Communication

District..... State..... Pin code:.....

Email..... Mobile No.....

Title of the Paper

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Mode of Presentation..... LCD/Oral.....

Arrival detail..... Date..... Time..... Mode of Travel.....

Departure..... Date..... Time.....

Accommodation: Required/Not required

Registration Fee.....

Bank Name..... DD No..... Date of Issue.....

Important:

1. Registration Fee Rs. 1000/- only and for Research Scholar Rs.700/- only should be submitted through DD in favor of **HoD, Department of History, DSMNRU, Lucknow** payable at Lucknow.

2 Paper presenters are requested to send the soft copy (mandatory) of their abstract, till March 15, 2017 and full paper on or before March 25, 2017, to the email ID to **balochhistory2017@gmail.com** and the hard copy to The Head, Department of History, Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation University, Mohaan Road, Lucknow-226 017.

Date:

Signature of the delegate

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation University, Lucknow

The Department of History was established in the year 2011 with the objectives to provide quality teaching and research in different areas of the subject which include Ancient, Medieval & Modern History, Culture and Historical Archaeology. The Department is headed by Prof. Avanish. C. Mishra, with two Associate Professors and four Assistant Professors as faculty members. The Department offers U.G. and P.G, degree courses in History, Culture and Archaeology. The current academic year 2016-17 has a huge strength of students approximately 450 in different semester at under graduate level, and around 90 students at post graduation level. The Department also runs Ph.D. Programme in different streams of History from the year 2014. Currently 27 research scholars are enrolled in the course many of whom are awarded U.G.C. JRF and R.G. fellowship.

Teaching Programme/Course:

The department offers Under Graduate, Post Graduate and Ph.D Degree Courses in Ancient, Medieval and Modern History Under 'A' 'B' and 'C' Groups.

Group 'A' contains Ancient History, Culture and Archaeology and group 'B' is related to Medieval History and Culture and group 'C' is related to Modern History and Culture. Based on semester system U.G. classes have six Semesters. In every semester, we offer different papers throwing light on the various aspects of History like Political, Cultural and Archaeology, Socio-Economic History, Religious History and Indian Freedom Struggle.

Research:

The department has undertaken various research initiatives focusing on various aspects of History Pre-history, Historical Archaeology, Art & Indian National Movement.

Archeology is one of the focused areas of research. The department was given license by A.S.I, Govt. of India for excavation of a N.B.P. site named Sandwaveer located near Rajapur, Chitrakoot district, as a part of study entitled 'Archaeology of Bundelkhand'.

Earlier an Exploration was conducted in Upper Johila Basin, Amarkantak, district Anup Pur, (Madya Pradesh) for the Session 2014-15 by Dr. Brijesh C. Rawat, a faculty member.

The P.G. students submitted their Dissertation/Project work on the origin and development of Lucknow city, its heritage and historical monuments including socio-economic history of Lucknow.

The research scholars enrolled in the department have also been assigned the seminar classes to discuss various currents of history.

Extension Activities:

The department organizes historical trips regularly on local level in the city of Lucknow to make the students aware about the historical monuments and to spread a sense of belongingness among people towards our heritage. In the session 2015-16 the student of M.A. Ist & IIIrd semester and faculty members took part in Kakori visit. A Lecture was also delivered by Dr. Alok Kumar Associate Professor, to highlight the importance of Kakori in freedom struggle. The students came to know the history of Kakori. They decided to collect more information about this place with accurate data. Hence, they took initiative to aware people of that particular area to preserve and develop this historical site. A year long activity ended with the closing of semester May, 2016.

The next excursion was conducted for other historical places of Lucknow namely Chattar Manzil and Residency. A documentary film on Chattar Manzil with lecture was also organized on the spot. This was very enthusiastic for every scholar of the department of History knew about the historical and Architectural facts about Residency of Lucknow. A museum situated in the premises of Residency was also visited by the students.

Publication:

Since, its inception of the department has published 11 Books and 62 Research Papers in various National and International Journals.

Visit Abroad:

Members of the department also visited abroad to attend seminar and conduct researches. Dr. Brijesh C. Rawat visited Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Cambodia to attend international seminar and conduct survey related to Jain Iconography. Dr. Surabhi Srivastava visited Universities of U.S and Canada.

Placement:

The Students of the department are placed in various Central and State Government positions and also serving in the field of teaching.

Dr. Avanish C. Mishra
HoD
Department of History

About the University

Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation University, Lucknow was established by Government of Uttar Pradesh in 2009. In this unique University, 50 percent seats in various courses are reserved for physically challenged people and within that 50 percent. i.e., 25 percent of the total seats are reserved for visually impaired students. The University provides education, training and research facilities to both disabled and non-disabled students in the same class room set-up signifying 'reverse integration'. Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh in Visitor of the University. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh in Chairperson of the General Council of the University. Presently, eminent educationist Professor (Dr.) Nishith Rai is its Vice-Chancellor.

The University is duly recognised under 2(f) and 12 (B) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. The University primarily aims at ensuring access to higher education by all; especially by person with disabilities (PwDs) in barrier-free environment. Thus, the basic focus of the University is on empowerment and mainstreaming of PwDs through inclusive education, training and skill development. The uniqueness of the University lies in imparting quality education based on international parameters and social inclusion of the persons with disability. Significantly, Hon'ble President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee has conferred National Disability Award 2014 to this University for its outstanding contribution in the field of providing a barrier-free environment.

The University has barrier-free green campus spread in 131 acres with well-developed infrastructure and is engaged in enhancement of knowledge and research capabilities. Also, the University is committed to promote interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary studies. The University has seven faculties including Arts, Commerce, Special Education, Law, Music and Fine Arts, Science & Technology and Computer Science & Information Technology. In all, Twenty one department under these faculties are running various courses with special focus on augmenting the employability of students through quality education. In order to cope up with the national and international standards of teaching and research, the course curricula have been designed so as to make them globally comparable and acceptable. Moreover, the University has a very explicit and internationally recognized system of internal assessment and exam system.

The University provides free education, hostel and mess facilities to physically challenged students. The Centre for Indian Sign Language and Deaf Studies has been established with a view to cater the educational needs of deaf students. A special feature of the Centre is two years Pre-Degree Certificate Course for Deaf Students equivalent to intermediate duly approved by Government of Uttar Pradesh. Another important endeavour of the University is establishment of Artificial Limb and Rehabilitation Centre which manufactures artificial limbs and provides the same free of charge to disabled people. Besides, the Centre runs four years Bachelor of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (BASLP) and four and a half years Bachelor of Prosthetics and Orthotics (BPP) Para-medical courses. Centre for Disability Studies is functional as a Resource Centre of the Rehabilitation Council of India, Government of India for distance learning in special education, In-Service Training along with minor and major research projects. Significantly, the University affiliates such institutions of Uttar Pradesh who apart from routine course(s) also run course(s) approved by the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi.